



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3. A Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 1-10 and add new claims 11-16 before calculating the Filing Fee.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

--This is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 10/403,124, filed April 1, 2003; which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 10/082,062, filed on February 26, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,568,191; which is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/308,981, filed May 28, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,393,829; which is a 371 of PCT/JP96/03503, filed November 29, 1996. This divisional application is also related to U.S. Serial No. 09/754,383 filed January 5, 2001.

7. New formal drawings are enclosed, four (4) sheets, Figs. 1-4. The drawings include corrections approved in the prior application.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174  
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663  
John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293  
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846  
Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1120.

9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

10. The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present divisional application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 10/403,124, as originally filed on April 1, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



Gene W. Stockman  
Registration No. 21,021  
Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 684-1120  
Date: February 23, 2004